

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA: _____
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DISPATCH NO.: NGKA-10602

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DATE: 1 September 1949

TO : Chief, Foreign Branch "L"
FROM : Chief of Station, Karlsruhe
SUBJECT: Misuse of Berlin Material
REF : NGK-W-2653

1. Before answering your question under what circumstances the BUICK lists were made available to Der Telegraf, allow me to assure you that [] and I regret very much that this matter got out of hand. It was certainly not our intention to have the lists appear as they did.

2. Here is the story as given by []

a. The list was loaned to CANLET with the explicit understanding that the names, birthdates and places were to be checked through his facilities, prior to publishing them. Upon completion of the checking job it would then be decided in what form the material was to be published. What happened instead was that CANLET passed the material on to one of his editors who, in the absence of CANLET in the zone, took it upon himself to publish the material without processing it as agreed.

b. In a way, this occurrence stemmed from the circumstance that, since CANISE's move to Frankfurt, [] has been forced to deal with CANLET direct. CANLET, like other big-time entrepreneurs, is far more easily managed in matters of detail through a reliable subordinate (CANISE) than directly. Thus a promise from CANLET that this or that will be done does not carry with it the guarantee that the agreement will be followed through and checked on as it does in the case of CANISE.

3. It has always seemed to me that any use of the BUICK lists, no matter how disguised, would tend to confirm the Russian suspicion that BUICK is in our hands. [] tells me that this point was discussed at a conference in Washington in the spring of 1948 attended by [] and himself and that the security risks entailed by publishing the agent names were

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reviewed and written off as against the advantages to be derived in making such an attack on the morale of the RIS. Admittedly the publication of these names in the form given in Der Telegraf can leave no question in the Russian's minds that the lists, and presumably the body came into our hands. Now we have alerted them to the likelihood that we have future operational ideas in mind for BUICK (as suggested in your Para 3) is completely unclear to me. I think that failure to use this material (which they may now believe we have) would point more to our operational interest in BUICK than the fact that the lists have been published.

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